

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY	DOCKET NO. P-848
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ORDER ASSIGNING DOCKET TO PRESIDING OFFICER

(Issued April 22, 2003)

On December 13, 2002, Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL) filed a petition requesting that the Utilities Board (Board) issue a permit to construct, operate, and maintain a new natural gas pipeline. The pipeline will consist of 13 miles of 20-inch diameter steel pipeline in Cerro Gordo and Hancock Counties with a maximum allowable operating pressure of 1050 psig. The pipeline is proposed to deliver gas to the Power Iowa Energy Center in Cerro Gordo County. The pipeline is also designed to provide natural gas to new customers and support the existing distribution systems in the communities of Clear Lake and Mason City, Iowa.

Board staff has informed IPL by letters dated February 10, March 3, and March 18, 2003, of several deficiencies in the petition. IPL filed a revised petition and exhibits by letters dated February 24, March 7, and April 4, 2003. Board staff has filed reports concerning the pipeline and petition on March 13 and April 16, 2003.

Iowa Code § 479.7 (2003) requires the Board to set a hearing in a pipeline proceeding upon the filing of a petition. Iowa Code § 479.8 also requires the hearing

shall be held in the county seat of the county located at the midpoint of the proposed route where the proposed pipeline would operate under pressure exceeding 150 psig and exceed five miles in length,

The Board finds that the petition and exhibits, as revised, are in sufficient order procedurally to docket the petition for further proceedings. Therefore, the Board will assign this proceeding, identified as Docket No. P-848, to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and set a hearing date.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

Docket No. P-848 is assigned to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and exercise the authority provided in 199 IAC 7.1(4).

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 22nd day of April, 2003.